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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/836,141	04/16/2001	Frank Dombroski	48269.008	5796

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TIFFANY & BOSCO
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EXAMINER

MOONEYHAM, JANICE A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3629

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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07/05/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/836,141

Applicant(s)

DOMBROSKI ET AL.

Examiner

Janice A. Mooneyham

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 May 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-44 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 27-44 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is in response to the applicant's communication filed on May 21, 2007, wherein:

Claims 1-44 are currently pending;

Claims 27-44 have been withdrawn from consideration;

Claims 1-3, and 10 have been amended.

NOTE: Applicant's amendment failed to provided a listing of the withdrawn claims with the appropriate identifier as required by 37 CFR 1.121. Currently, the rules require the text of withdrawn claims to be presented with the proper status identifier. Applicant will be required to provide these claims in any subsequent amendments.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on May 15, 2007 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

3. Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 2, 3, and 10 to incorporate the limitation of selecting business rules based on at least two ranked and prioritized categories related to travel preference. The applicant directs the Examiner to paragraph [0093]. While this discusses two ranked and prioritized categories relating to air travel processing, the examiner asserts that by moving this limitation up to define the car and hotel booking process, this limitation is new matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jones et al (US 2002/0156661) (hereinafter referred to as Jones) of in view of Shah (US 2002/0032589) (hereinafter referred to as Shah)

Referring to Claims 1-26:

Jones discloses a method and system for automatically planning, booking travel arrangements, comprising a data storage device (Figure 1 (112) and (140)), a booking engine (travel computer 120), an output device (Figure 1 (100, 106) and a processor programmed to perform the method (Figure 1 (50)), comprising:

maintaining in computer storage device a database of user profile information including in information regarding air travel booking preferences, car booking preferences, hotel booking preferences and personal preference air travel ratings (Figure 1 (112); [0039] a user's profile may be maintained in the memory 112 or an external storage system accessible by the travel computer 120 or the user computer 100 which includes travel preferences);

using the user profile information and the travel request data to automatically formulate a travel request in response to the travel request input, the travel request including airline, hotel and rental car reservation information ([0039] user inputs travel parameters to the presentation program 108 on the user computer 100, which travel parameters are sent to the travel system 114 on the travel computer 120 for processing a user's profile may be maintained in the memory 112 or an external storage system accessible by the travel computer 120 or the user computer 100 which includes travel preferences, such as preferred seats, airports, airlines, airplanes, modes of ground transportation such as rental cars, price, range, or a seat class. After inputting the various parameters, the system generates and itinerary);

selecting/applying business rules based on at least two ranked and prioritized categories related to travel preference (based on at least two categories of user

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preference information selected from the group of lowest price, arrival/departure time, airline, non-stop, duration, alternate airports and full fare automobile upgrades (Fig. 2A (200), page 2 [0039] thru page 3 [0047]),

automatically creating a travel query file by applying business rules to the travel request, including (Fig. 2A (210));

automatically executing an air booking process

automatically executing a car booking process for selecting (Figs. 2A, 5A), and

automatically executing a hotel booking process (Figs. 2A, 4A),

submitting the query file to a booking engine for creating a travel request query (Figs. 2A, 3A);

submitting the travel request query to a travel distribution system for retrieving air, car, and hotel availability information (pages 2-3 [0036-0047];

receiving from the travel distribution system the air, car and hotel availability information and creating a suggested travel itinerary (Figs. 2A-5C, Fig. 7 (Figure 7);

allowing manual changes to be made to the suggested travel itinerary (Figs. 8A-8D);

accepting manual confirmation of the suggested travel itinerary (Fig. 3A (377,380)).

Jones does not disclose a method and system wherein the travel request input including travel request data is automatically gathered from a user's personal calendar application configured to store and display a user's calendar events including events not related to the travel request. Jones does not disclose automatically creating and storing

appointment events in the calendar application using data from the confirmed travel itinerary.

However, Shah discloses an integrated calendaring and reservation method and system wherein the travel request input data is automatically gathered from the user's personal calendar and automatically creating and storing appointment events in the calendar application using data from the confirmed travel itinerary ([0039] [0050] [0051] and [0079].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include an integrated calendaring method and system as taught by Shah with the reservation method and system disclosed in Jones so that the user may have access to all the information required to make the appropriate reservations and so that a user will not forget to make the necessary reservations in a timely fashion that may cause an appointment to be missed.

Furthermore, the Examiner takes Official Notice that it is old and well known to apply business rules which take into account ranking and prioritization of preferences in the reservation industry and thus would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate this into any reservation method or system.

4. Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jones et al (US 2002/0156661) (hereinafter referred to as Jones) of in view of *I-tinerary.com to Create First Travel Itinerary Site for Mobile Device Users* published on April 5, 2000 on the Business Wire (hereinafter referred to as I-tinerary).

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Referring to Claims 1-26:

Jones discloses a method and system for automatically planning, booking travel arrangements, comprising a data storage device (Figure 1 (112) and (140)), a booking engine (travel computer 120), an output device (Figure 1 (100, 106) and a processor programmed to perform the method (Figure 1 (50)), comprising:

maintaining in computer storage device a database of user profile information including in information regarding air travel booking preferences, car booking preferences, hotel booking preferences and personal preference air travel ratings (Figure 1 (112); [0039] a user's profile may be maintained in the memory 112 or an external storage system accessible by the travel computer 120 or the user computer 100 which includes travel preferences);

using the user profile information and the travel request data to automatically formulate a travel request in response to the travel request input, the travel request including airline, hotel and rental car reservation information ([0039] user inputs travel parameters to the presentation program 108 on the user computer 100, which travel parameters are sent to the travel system 114 on the travel computer 120 for processing a user's profile may be maintained in the memory 112 or an external storage system accessible by the travel computer 120 or the user computer 100 which includes travel preferences, such as preferred seats, airports, airlines, airplanes, modes of ground transportation such as rental cars, price, range, or a seat class. After inputting the various parameters, the system generates and itinerary);

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selecting/applying business rules based on at least two ranked and prioritized categories related to travel preference (based on at least two categories of user preference information selected from the group of lowest price, arrival/departure time, airline, non-stop, duration, alternate airports and full fare automobile upgrades (Fig. 2A (200), page 2 [0039] thru page 3 [0047]);

automatically creating a travel query file by applying business rules to the travel request, including (Fig. 2A (210));

automatically executing an air booking process;

automatically executing a car booking process for selecting (Figs. 2A, 5A), and

automatically executing a hotel booking process (Figs. 2A, 4A),

submitting the query file to a booking engine for creating a travel request query (Figs. 2A, 3A);

submitting the travel request query to a travel distribution system for retrieving air, car, and hotel availability information (pages 2-3 [0036-0047];

receiving from the travel distribution system the air, car and hotel availability information and creating a suggested travel itinerary (Figs. 2A-5C, Fig. 7 (Figure 7);

allowing manual changes to be made to the suggested travel itinerary (Figs. 8A-8D);

accepting manual confirmation of the suggested travel itinerary (Fig. 3A (377,380).

Jones does not disclose a method and system wherein the travel request input including travel request data is automatically gathered from a user's personal calendar

application configured to store and display a user's calendar events or automatically creating and storing appointment events in the calendar application using data from the confirmed travel itinerary.

However, I-tinerary discloses an integrated calendaring and reservation method and system wherein the travel request input data is automatically gathered from the user's calendar and automatically creating and storing appointment events in the calendar application using data from the confirmed travel itinerary (paragraphs 3 and 6).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate into the reservation method and system disclosed in Jones a booking method and system with calendaring software programs so that business travelers can now have a complete itinerary scheduled including air, car, and hotel, based on the traveler's preferences, with one click and so that business travelers can view and modify their travel itineraries using the most popular mobile devices.

Furthermore, the Examiner takes Official Notice that it is old and well known to apply business rules which take into account ranking and prioritization of preferences in the reservation industry and thus would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate this into any reservation method or system.

5. Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jones et al (US 2002/0156661) (hereinafter referred to as Jones) of in view of *Galileo International Announces Corporate Travelpoint™ 2.0; Advanced Corporate Travel*

Solution Eliminates Need for Data Synchronization; Can be Easily Integrated and Customized to the Traveler published on July 31, 2000 by the PR Newswire Association (hereinafter referred to as Travelpoint).

Referring to Claims 1-26:

Jones discloses a method and system for automatically planning, booking travel arrangements, comprising a data storage device (Figure 1 (112) and (140)), a booking engine (travel computer 120), an output device (Figure 1 (100, 106) and a processor programmed to perform the method (Figure 1 (50)), comprising:

maintaining in computer storage device a database of user profile information including in information regarding air travel booking preferences, car booking preferences, hotel booking preferences and personal preference air travel ratings (Figure 1 (112); [0039] a user's profile may be maintained in the memory 112 or an external storage system accessible by the travel computer 120 or the user computer 100 which includes travel preferences);

using the user profile information and the travel request data to automatically formulate a travel request in response to the travel request input, the travel request including airline, hotel and rental car reservation information ([0039] user inputs travel parameters to the presentation program 108 on the user computer 100, which travel parameters are sent to the travel system 114 on the travel computer 120 for processing a user's profile may be maintained in the memory 112 or an external storage system accessible by the travel computer 120 or the user computer 100 which includes travel preferences, such as preferred seats, airports, airlines, airplanes, modes of ground

transportation such as rental cars, price, range, or a seat class. After inputting the various parameters, the system generates and itinerary);

selecting/applying business rules based on at least two ranked and prioritized categories related to travel preference (based on at least two categories of user preference information selected from the group of lowest price, arrival/departure time, airline, non-stop, duration, alternate airports and full fare automobile upgrades (Fig. 2A (200), page 2 [0039] thru page 3 [0047])

automatically creating a travel query file by applying business rules to the travel request, including (Fig. 2A (210));

automatically executing an air booking process based on at least two categories of user preference information selected from the group of lowest price, arrival/departure time, airline, non-stop, duration, alternate airports and full fare automobile upgrades (Fig. 2A (200), page 2 [0039] thru page 3 [0047]),

automatically executing a car booking process for selecting (Figs. 2A, 5A), and
automatically executing a hotel booking process (Figs. 2A, 4A),
submitting the query file to a booking engine for creating a travel request query (Figs. 2A, 3A);

submitting the travel request query to a travel distribution system for retrieving air, car, and hotel availability information (pages 2-3 [0036-0047];

receiving from the travel distribution system the air, car and hotel availability information and creating a suggested travel itinerary (Figs. 2A-5C, Fig. 7 (Figure 7);

allowing manual changes to be made to the suggested travel itinerary (Figs. 8A-8D);

accepting manual confirmation of the suggested travel itinerary (Fig. 3A (377,380)).

Jones does not disclose a method and system wherein the travel request input including travel request data is automatically gathered from a user's personal calendar application configured to store and display a user's calendar events including events not related to the travel request data or automatically creating and storing appointment events in the calendar application using data from the confirmed travel itinerary.

However, Travepoint discloses an integrated calendaring and reservation method and system wherein the travel request input data is automatically gathered from the user's calendar and automatically creating and storing appointment events in the calendar application using data from the confirmed travel itinerary (paragraphs 5-11).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate into the reservation method and system disclosed in Jones a booking method and system with calendaring and data features using personal information management products (PIM) so that once an appointment or meeting is entered into a PIM at a location other than the traveler's "home," the travel application is launched and a travel itinerary is created and presented to the employee taking into consideration the corporate travel policy, preferred suppliers, personal settings and preferences, wherein the employee can accept the proposed itinerary or modify it.

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Furthermore, the Examiner takes Official Notice that it is old and well known to apply business rules which take into account ranking and prioritization of preferences in the reservation industry and thus would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate this into any reservation method or system.

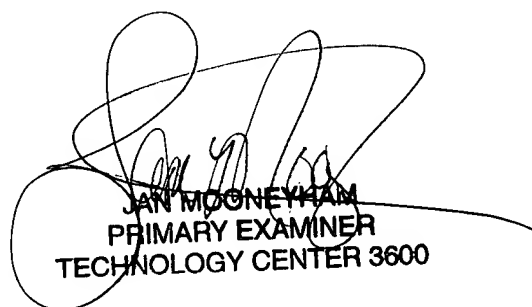
Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-26 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Janice A. Mooneyham whose telephone number is (571) 272-6805. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on (571) 272-6812. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



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